

And, with a pleasant twinkle of the eye, continued :—

“ And we were both in earnest ! We thought in different ways sometimes, but for the same end. As it is, I am satisfied.”

I am confident that these are nearly the precise words spoken, and I have often thought, that then, if ever, during that free conversation, he would have given utterance to hard thoughts if such were in his heart.

Of the ten brilliant years which comprised the public life of Governor Andrew, those of the rebellion brought his name and his character most prominently before the State and the nation ; and of that noble list of the chief magistrates of the loyal States, it is no disparagement to others, to say that he was, by the universal verdict, first and foremost. Says the Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint, in his election sermon, in January, 1866 :—

“ To have been the governor of Massachusetts for five such years—called by the spontaneous voice of the people, and continued by reflections (these most momentous years since those of the revolution)—is enough for the patriotic ambition of any man. To have been such a governor that the reader of the country’s history inevitably turns to Massachusetts, and, turning to Massachusetts, inevitably sees foremost the name of its chief magistrate, ennobles a man in history. In such a term of service there is a manifest completeness. It began when the clouds were lowering ; it ends with the skies clear. The work accomplished was one work ; it covers a great period in history.”

So far as public fame is more immediately concerned, Governor Andrew’s war-record stands out in bold relief from his other services. He was, as all know, among the first to foresee and prepare for the impending conflict, with a prescience which now seems like an inspiration, with a vigor which could scarcely have been increased, and a breadth of view which could scarcely have been enlarged, had he actually known the events that were to follow. And thus, when the crisis came, he, and may we not say he alone, was ready ! In answer to an inquiry as to his reasons for apprehending a resort to arms, he replied with earnestness : “ It was in the air, and some of us breathed it ! ” To his ever watchful eye it was certainly true that, “ Coming events cast their shadows before.”

Recall that message of January, 1861 : many, perhaps most of us, thought there was in it more of rhetoric than of fact ; more of the vagaries of an enthusiast than the wisdom and forecast of the statesman. But as we now read it in the light of history, it seems oracular in its utterances. He once remarked to me that he had two objects in view in this message, suggested by the threatening condition of public affairs : one, a vindication of the history of the State on distracting national questions, exonerating her from all responsibility for public